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Reagan, Thatcher resume meetings

WASHINGTON, Feb. 28 (AFP) — British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher held a meeting with President Ronald Reagan Saturday, after describing his reception Friday night as "the free as leading statesman."

Thatcher, who also met him Friday, as going on to New York later in the day, to end up a four-day U.S. visit by meeting United Nations Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim and leading American banker David Rockefeller.

At Friday night's reception, given by Mrs. Thatcher, President Reagan said he believed the era of totalitarian regimes would go down in history as merely a "sad and rather bizarre chapter in human history."

"We've heard all the slogans...the end of the class struggle...the inevitable triumph of socialism," he commented. "Indeed if there anything LA Marxist-Leninists might not be forgiven for, it is their willingness to bog the world down in tiresome clichés...a gaggle of bogus prophecies and petty superstitions."

Mrs. Thatcher appeared to take a somewhat harder line than Reagan, suggesting the U.S. should withdraw its forces from Afghanistan in advance of any U.S.-Soviet treaty. She endorsed U.S. calls for an embargo on what she says are outside Communist arms supplies to leftist guerrillas in El Salvador, but officials said some differences remained over how much support to give the leftist-civilian government there.

The U.S. administration was preparing a new military aid effort in El Salvador, Secretary of State Alexander Haig said it expected the government to improve its rights record.

Deputy Secretary Caspar Weinberger told Thatcher in a Pentagon meeting that the administration had decided to buy new Harrier vertical take-off jump jets, now produced jointly by U.S. and British firms, and to look closely at other arms purchases from West European allies. He also said no immediate authorization was being given to deploying U.S. troops on warheads in western Europe and the allies would be fully consulted before any such decision was made.

The Pentagon announced that the British prime minister had confirmed Britain's commitment to increase its military budget for the current year by three per cent in real terms (after inflation), a commitment all alliance members made, but some have since complained about as unrealistic in today's money.

Mrs. Thatcher and Weinberger also discussed security in the Gulf region, and the prime minister suggested that Britain and the United States join with France to form a "mutual navy" force in the area. All three countries already have ships in the region.

The British and American officials also agreed to coordinate their armament programs to avoid unnecessary duplication. Earlier Friday, Mrs. Thatcher celebrated the centenary of British economic policies with new conservative economic directions being taken by the Reagan administration. Georgetown University, where she

accepted an honorary doctorate, she said that "the dollar is our money as well as yours."

She then outlined a plan for coping with the West's grave economic problems. It involved restoring world confidence in money, upgrading free market mechanisms, getting the public accustomed to slower economic growth and reducing energy dependence.

She said economic freedom is one of the pillars for a free society and "is the foundation upon which the unparalleled prosperity of the west is built."

But she said the freedom for free enterprise has been eroded in both nations because "for many years the state has intervened more and more to limit or even to direct the behavior of both individuals and corporations." While Mrs. Thatcher said the motives for such regulation usually are well-meaning, "such intervention in the end gives rise to consequences which are neither free nor fair." She said, "the role of government in a free society should be to insure that people can go about their business freely and without fear and to protect the weak and those in need. But both in Britain and also in the United States the reach of government has far exceeded this limited role."

She said, "Governments in both our countries have pursued policies of extensive and detailed intervention far beyond those one would expect to find in a free society."

British Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington and U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig meanwhile said the Reagan-Thatcher talks, as well as separate meetings between the two foreign ministers, had disclosed general agreement between Washington and London.

But they said there were some differences in emphasis and approach on the Middle East, El Salvador and other issues.

PLO plans to examine unity draft

JEDDAH, Feb. 28 (AFP) — The Palestine Liberation Organization will examine a plan to unify all Palestinian movements on the strategic military level, PLO Head Yasser Arafat told *Agence France-Presse* here Saturday.

The Organization's National Palestinian Council during its April 11 session in Damascus will go over a project for "total union, on the strategic military level, of all Palestinian movements," Arafat said. The proposal "stipulates setting up a unified military plan, with participation by all Palestinian forces," he added. Arafat also announced that various other Palestinian groups, such as George Habash's Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, were about to join his organization.

Asked about prospects for a European initiative in the Mideast, Arafat commented that there were "currently various European ideas in this area, but no well-defined initiative. We are due to meet Dutch Foreign Minister (Christoph) Van Der Klaauw next April to present the PLO point of view," he added.



Yasser Arafat
Arafat said he "had no positive hopes for a just and equitable resolution of the Mideast conflict on the part of President Ronald Reagan, and the new United States administration." Speaking before his departure for Tehran as a member of the Islamic Conference Organization goodwill mission on the Gulf war, Arafat said of the coming Israeli elections: "We do not differentiate between the Labor Party and the Likud. Both parties' main objective is to liquidate the PLO and the Palestinian people."

Peace mission given elaborate welcome by Iran

TEHRAN, Feb. 28 (R) — A goodwill mission from eight Islamic countries including the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), arrived in Tehran Saturday to the most elaborate welcome in the two-year history of the Iranian Islamic Republic.

The latest mission to seek an end to the Gulf war was set up at last month's Islamic summit conference in Saudi Arabia.

It includes the presidents of Bangladesh, Pakistan and Guinea, PLO chief Yasser Arafat, prime minister of Turkey, the foreign ministers of Senegal, Gambia and Malaysia, and the secretary-general of the OIC.

They were met at the airport by Iranian President Abolhassan Bani-Sadr, Prime Minister Muhammad Ali Rajai, Defense Minister Javad Fakouri and the commanders of the air force, army and gendarmerie.

Strict security precautions were in force. Troops armed with assault rifles lined the road from the airport to Tehran's vast Azadi Square.

The mission inspected a guard of honor before entering the flag-decked airport VIP lounge. Iranian reporters said the formality of the protocol and the extent of security were unprecedented in the two years since the Islamic revolution which swept the Shah from power.

Despite the pomp and ceremony, there were doubts whether the mission would have more chances of success than previous attempts to end the five-month-old war between Iran and Iraq.

Only hours before the mission arrived from Saudi Arabia, where its members had gathered, state radio reiterated that Iran had not changed its position on the conflict — no peace talks before Iraqi forces withdraw from Iranian territory.

The radio said the visit of the peace mission had been discussed at a meeting of Iran's Defense Council which ended early Saturday.

"The delegation is coming here to hear the opinion of Iran about the war imposed on us by Iraq," a council spokesman was quoted as saying. "It is obvious that the opinion of the authorities is the same which has been stated

in the past. We have no new positions..."

The latest peace effort followed Iranian reports of success against the Iraqi forces which stormed across the border last September 22.

The mission was expected to meet Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini Sunday, before leaving via Kuwait for the Iraqi capital, sources in Jeddah said before the mission left there earlier Saturday.

The "committee of nine" would return to Riyadh late Monday, after meeting Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, and meet King Khaled and Crown Prince Fahd Tuesday.

Sabah to form new government

KUWAIT, Feb. 28 (R) — The ruler of Kuwait, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al-Sabah, Saturday reappointed Sheikh Saad Al-Abdullah Al-Sabah as prime minister and asked him to form a new government, an official statement said. Sheikh Saad, who is also heir apparent of the Gulf state, had resigned with his cabinet Tuesday following the election Monday of a new 50-member National Assembly.

The assembly replaced one dissolved in 1976 because of political discord with the government. It contains none of the radicals who led opposition to the government in previous assemblies. Sheikh Saad is expected to announce his cabinet before the assembly meets March 9.

Bakery held gold

ST. TROPEZ, Southern France, Feb. 28 (AFP) — Workmen have found a pot of gold in the foundations of a bread shop in this fashionable Mediterranean holiday resort.

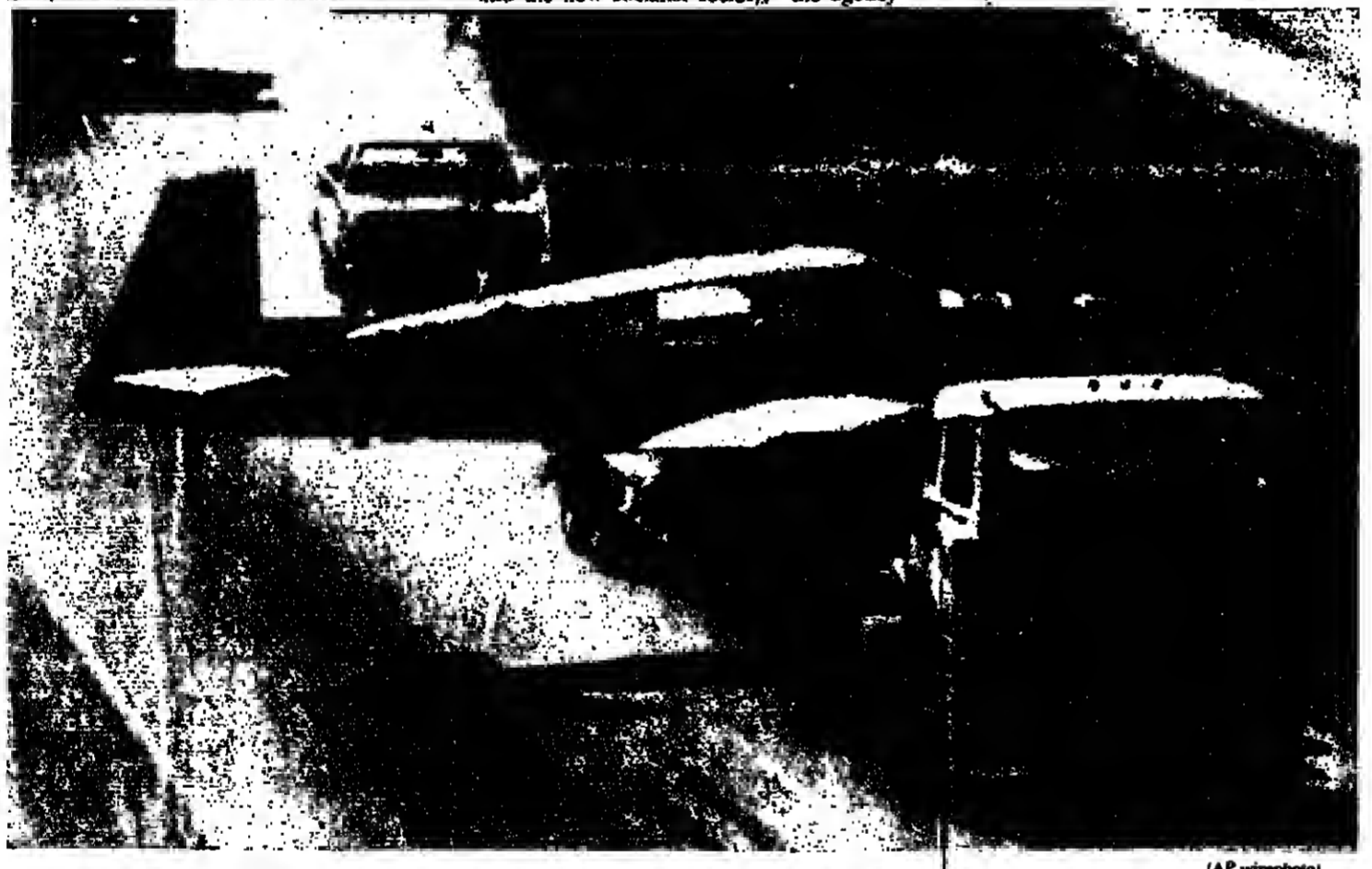
The treasure comprised three kilos of gold pieces, dated 1830, in a saucepan, and silver coins in a bottle.

The workmen were carrying out excavations to enlarge the bakery's facilities. The hoard was apparently assembled and hidden during the last century.

Japanese prince enroute to Riyadh

BANGKOK, Thailand, Feb. 28 (AP) — Japan's Crown Prince Akihito and his consort Princess Michiko left here Saturday for Saudi Arabia after a brief stopover at Donmuang Airport.

Thai Crown Prince Vajiralongkorn welcomed the Japanese royal couple at the airport. Crown Prince Akihito and his consort spent the night at Bhuping Palace outside the northern city of Chiang Mai, as private guests of King Bhumipol Adulyadej and Queen Sirikit, who hosted a dinner for the Japanese royal couple.



LOW ALTITUDE: A single-engine plane makes an emergency landing on Interstate 385 in Greenville recently. Flight instructor Paul McOlivra, who was in the plane with student pilot David Nestberg, said the plane's engine lost power immediately after take-off from Greenville Downtown airport. No one was hurt.

Basque separatists release consul hostages

SAN SEBASTIAN, Spain, Feb. 28 (AP) — The honorary consuls of Austria, Uruguay and El Salvador kidnapped one week ago in northern Spain by Basque separatist guerrillas were freed unharmed Saturday in San Sebastian, police said.

The consuls were freed on a San Sebastian street five days after an abortive attempt to overthrow the government in Madrid. It was not immediately clear if the separatists released the hostages because of the attempted coup, or if they felt their ransom demand for news media to disseminate reports of police torture had been satisfied.

An anonymous telephone caller told the Travelers Aid Association here at midmorning that the consuls had been freed in San Sebastian and then hung up. Police said the three consuls were taken to the civil governor's office.

A 21-member kidnap team took Austrian Consul Hermann Diez de la Sel Korsatko and El Salvador Consul Antonio Alfaro Fernandez from their homes in Bilbao, and took Uruguayan Consul Gabriel Biurrun from his home in Pamplona almost at the same time.

The kidnapers, from the more moderate political wing of the Basque Separatist organization ETA, blamed for killing 95 persons last year, demanded that government and private news media release an Amnesty International report on police torture in Spain, a report by the Human Rights Commission of the home rule Basque parliament of mistreatment of police prisoners and 18 photos of a separatist guerrilla allegedly tortured to death in Madrid by police.

All newspapers in the Basque region but two published the reports and photos. Two Madrid newspapers published the Amnesty International report and one of the photos before the ransom demand was made.

Libyan actions denounced Sudan seeks closer Egyptian ties

KHARTOUM, Feb. 28 (R) — Sudan, concerned about what it considers to be the danger of Libyan-inspired subversion, said Saturday it wanted to establish closer ties with Egypt, a military ally and neighbor. A statement issued by the central committee of the Sudanese Socialist Union (SSU), the country's only legal political organization, called for "consolidating the integration process between our two sister countries."

The statement, endorsed by President Jaafar Numeiri, denounced Libya's military role during the civil war in the Central African state of Chad on Sudan's western borders.

Libyan troops helped government forces in Chad drive out rebel units led by former Defense Minister Hissane Habre. Travellers returning from the Chad border reported that Sudanese forces had been strengthened to scrutinize Chadian refugees in search of possible Libyan infiltrators.

In Khartoum, the capital, anti-aircraft batteries have recently been placed near factories and military bases.

Egyptian President Anwar Sadat, an outspoken critic of Qaddafi, has pledged to go to Sudan's aid against any Libyan intervention. Cairo and Khartoum are bound by a military pact.

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Riyadh to Gulf

Contracts to be let for expressway link

JEDDAH, Feb. 28 — Contracts for the construction of the new 680-kilometer expressway linking Riyadh with Dammam will be awarded in the next few days, according to officials of the Ministry of Communications.

Officials said the expressway will be a dual carriage road with three lanes in each direction. It will have barriers to prevent stray animals from endangering traffic. The expressway linking Jeddah and Mecca has steel

Environment move made

AL-KHOBAR, Feb. 28 — Saudi Basic Technology of Al-Khobar has formed an environmental division to supply technical goods and services related to environmental problems, according to a company press statement.

Richard Bazer of Babax Industrial Services, United Kingdom, has been seconded as the general manager, the report added. An agreement was signed this week between Saleh Shata, president of Saudi Basic Technology and Van Es, technical director of a Dutch consortium, Holland Engineering and contractors consortium for the supply of goods and services relating to oily water separation, desalination, maintenance and other facilities, it said.

mesh fences on it and effectively stops stray camels of the desert from crossing the road.

The Riyadh-Dammam road will pass via Abu Huriya on the Gulf coast and via the ring road of Riyadh which is under construction at present. It will reduce traveling time between the cities and stimulate trade between the Central and Eastern Regions.

At the same time bids have been invited for the construction of the railway linking the two regions. The cost has been estimated at SR1 billion and will take three years to complete. It will shave off nearly 100 kilometers or one hour traveling time. The President of the Saudi Government Railroad Organization, Sheikh Faisal Al Shuhail has said that the time between the capital and Dammam will be reduced to four hours and the distance reduced to 456 kilometers.

Studies also are under way to link the Western and Central Regions and Jubail with Dammam by rail. Jubail is the site of the petrochemical industries and a new city which eventually will accommodate 300,000 people.

The organization has invited 33 consortium to bid for the Riyadh-Dammam project which is the largest in its current five-year development plan. It will tendered in three sections with no single company allowed to win more than two contracts.



PEACE STRATEGY: Members of the Islamic goodwill committee, which was formed to bring about a ceasefire between Iran and Iraq, charted out a peace strategy at Al Hamra guest palace in Jeddah before their departure for Iran and Iraq Saturday. Pictures show from left to right: Turkish Premier Bulent Ulusu, Pakistani President Zia ul Haq, Senegal's Ambassador to the Kingdom Mustafa Sese, Secretary General of the OIC Habib Chatti, President Ahmad Sekou Toure of Guinea, President Zia ul Rahman of Bangladesh, PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat and President Dawoud Jawara of Gambia.

BRIEFS

Economy minister departs
RIYADH, Feb. 28 (SPA) — Finance and National Economy Minister Sheikh Muhammad Aba Al-Khail returned to Riyadh Saturday from Tunis. Aba Al-Khail led the Kingdom's delegation to the 30th session of the Arab Economic and Social Council which ended Friday after two days of deliberations.

Educators meet
JEDDAH, Feb. 28 (SPA) — Western Region Education Director General Dr. Abdullah Al-Zaid met the Iraqi education delegation visiting the Kingdom. The delegation, invited by the Ministry of Education, discussed educational and cultural relations between the two countries with Dr. Al-Zaid. The director general briefed the Iraqi delegation on the Kingdom's educational achievements.

Oil ministers meet
RIYADH, Feb. 28 (SPA) — The Iraqi Oil Minister Tayeb Abdul Karim held talks with the Minister of Petroleum and Mineral Resources Sheikh Ahmad Zaki Yamani here Saturday. Tayeb who arrived earlier in the morning discussed mutual cooperation in oil matters.

Officials promoted
JEDDAH, Feb. 28 — Six senior officials of Siraj-Zahran were promoted to deputy general managers, not vice presidents as reported previously. The promotion was made by the order of the company's president, Sheikh Ahmad Abdullah Al-Sulaiman. The promoted employees included Muhammad Hassan Abu Al-Anain, Issam Abdul Aziz Banajali, Khalil Ahmad Al-Hibshi, Mahmood Hussain Balawi, Ahmad

Mahmood Taha and George William. **Railroad committee meets**
RIYADH, Feb. 28 (SPA) — The Hejaz Railroad Re-commissioning Executive Committee met at the Communications Ministry headquarters here to discuss a report on the feasibility of re-opening the line that links Medina to Damascus. Saturday's meeting was attended by deputy communications and transport ministers of the Kingdom, Jordan and Syria.

Blind sports festival begins
JEDDAH, Feb. 28 (SPA) — Deputy Mecca Governor Prince Saud ibi Abdul Mohsen will open Monday the first sports festival for blind people organized by the 'Light and Hope' institute for the blind. The festival, organized at the national level, will be held at the Sahat Islam stadium in Mecca. The ceremony will be attended by senior education officials in the Western Region.

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Cooking oil hits market

By a Staff Writer
JEDDAH, Feb. 28 — The Kingdom's cooks and housewives are being enticed away from their traditional cooking oil towards new home-refined brands.

A 600-ton test sample of Nabati palm oil is already appearing in shops and supermarkets as Jeddah's Saudi Vegetable Oil and Ghee factory prepares to go into production by summer. According to officials from the SR60 million publicly-owned joint stock company, an extension will be completed May doubling its capacity to about 90,000 tons of oil a year enough to supply the entire Saudi market.

The new SR120 million plant in Jeddah's industrial city will produce Palm and Soya oils under its own brands; less popular, Ghee and corn oils will be produced for other suppliers. In time, the company expects tariff

barriers against imports to protect and encourage the new public industry in what is at present a heavily subsidized product.

Despite the Ministry of Commerce subsidies, imported oils can cost the consumer from SR4 to SR19 per gallon, according to company official. The Saudi product's price is still to be determined but is expected to be competitive. The "Nabati" specials are now selling for SR6 per 3.5 liter bottle, marginally less than one gallon, they said.

Since April, the Jeddah factory's 200 largely-foreign workers have been under training. Some are in Sweden with the technical adviser's, Karishams, but most are being instructed on the Jeddah factory's equipment, supplied by Kerstfeld of West Germany. The factory imports crude oils for refining, processing, and canning or bottling in Jeddah. Plastic bottles are made on site.

Important announcement

THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE & NATIONAL ECONOMY announces that due to architectural defects in its present building situated on Airport Road in Riyadh and due to technical recommendations the Ministry will temporarily vacate and they have rented the building of General Organization for Social Insurance which is located at Airport Road, South-west of the present building, for two years, the period needed for renovation of the old building.

All Ministry departments & equipments have been shifted to the new building except the Minister's office and general directorate for Budget which will move later.

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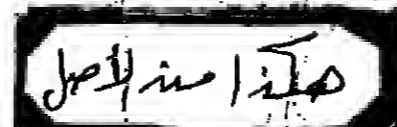
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causeway contract to be awarded

JEDDAH, Feb. 28 — Officials will award the contract for the causeway link between Saudi Arabia and Bahrain next April, *Arab News* magazine reported Saturday. Tenders by 16 international groups for a causeway linking the tiny island (Bahrain) to Saudi Arabia have been under consideration by the two countries since July of last year. The bids to build the Saudi-Bahrain causeway vary by millions against the officially estimated cost of \$800 million. However, Bahrain's minister for Industry and Development, H.E. Yusuf Shirawi said, "The best bid will not necessarily win the contract, the most exciting in the Gulf for years. For the 24-kilometer causeway will be more than just a link between Bahrain Island and the mainland. It will forge economic, political and social bonds between Saudi Arabia and Bahrain, as well as with Kuwait, Iraq and the United Arab Emirates. The causeway will be tangible evidence of the call for Gulf unity. It is for this reason that the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, vied for the project to go ahead — even if it cost double the original estimate. And that was in the days when figures like \$1 billion were being bandied around.

But in Bahrain it has always been thought that the figure would be much lower, due to the recession in the world contracting industry and the reduction in inflation levels for goods supplied locally. Although the entire cost of the project is being borne by Saudi Arabia, one of the stipulations of the winning bid is that local companies, materials and labor be involved as much as possible in the construction. And it is this local input that has made the causeway the most important topic of conversation in Bahrain for the past decade.

By taking into consideration the local conditions, the causeway will mean the biggest single source of new business to Gulf insurance companies for years. It carries with it the promise of using local subcontractors and prefabrication facilities. For in addition to the four-lane causeway itself, there will be five suspension-type bridges, two major approach roads — one from Manama to Jasra in Bahrain and one from Dhahran and Al Khobar in the Eastern Province of Saudi Arabia — two border posts and labor camps to house the anticipated 2,500 to 3,000 people who will be employed on the project.

But the joint Saudi Bahrain technical committee stipulates that these local facilities "will only be considered if they are competitive," said Yusuf Al Khajer, a member of Bahrain's contingent to the committee. It is this committee, composed of construction and industrial engineers themselves, that will be faced with the task of evaluating the final report from the causeway steering committee in March.

Since the project's conception in the 1960s it has been dogged by committees and sub-committees. Even the World Bank was consulted for its technical help and recommendations. Site investigations were carried out by a Dutch-based company and Saudi-Danish consultants drew up the original specifications for the fairly complicated project.

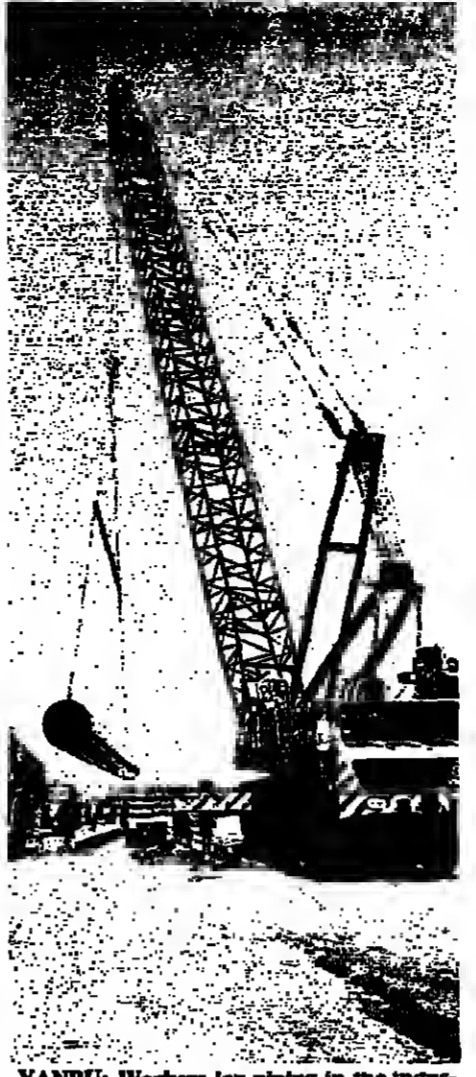
"At first," said technical committee member Al Khajer, "we were only interested in a steel construction. This was because of the disastrous experience we had with Government House and the Gulf Hotel in Bahrain. Both buildings were constructed in an aggregate of concrete containing different salts which combined together to actually erode the structure itself."

Since that time technology has developed a way of treating the aggregate to build a good solid bridge of concrete. "I went to New Orleans where I saw a bridge 22 miles long, much bigger than our proposed causeway. It was built in very similar climatic conditions to ours, high humidity and high temperatures and it was of concrete," said Al Khajer.

So the faith that the two countries governments originally lost in concrete has been restored, and consequently, the technical committee reopened its books to accept tenders in both materials. The \$500.3 million variation in the bids submitted reflects quotes for the two specifications now acceptable. Extensions to consider the tenders have been asked for by the bidders themselves, the steering committee and even by the ministerial committee, Yusuf Al Shirawi, Minister for Development and Industry in Bahrain and Saudi Arabia's finance minister Mohammed Abu Al Khalij.

Said Yusuf Shirawi in a recent interview in Manama, Bahrain, "When the cabinet directed the ministry of finance to unleash major schemes like the causeway, we asked them to defer the project till later in the development plan rather than earlier, in order to pace our resources with our growth and check inflation."

But this in no way means that the project will be shelved. Far from it, according to a statement by Saudi minister for finance on February 10, in which he stressed the importance of his country placed on the project and predicted that work would start on the simultaneous laying of foundations in Saudi Arabia, Bahrain and various points in the Gulf this year.



YANBU: Workers lay piping in the industrial city of Yanbu on the Red Sea coast.

Industrial cities grow from desert to modernity

YANBU, Feb. 28 (LAT) — "When we finish this job, someone should hire us to colonize the moon — it can't be much tougher," said an American working on one of the most ambitious industrial projects ever undertaken.

Just five years ago there was nothing here but desert sand and a vast salt marsh, undisturbed for millennia behind a barrier reef of Red Sea coral. Even the residents of tiny Yanbu, an ancient seaport 12 miles north of here where Lawrence of Arabia once made his headquarters, gave it a wide berth.

Today the salt marsh is gone, filled to the barrier reef with 31 million cubic yards of sea bottom brought up in one of the world's largest dredging operations. A vast complex of refinery towers, million-barrel oil tanks, multicolored pipes of a petrochemical plant and piers big enough for supertankers is nearing completion on the new shoreline. And the nucleus of a city containing ultramodern conveniences for an expected population of 135,000 is in place nearby and already expanding.

Directly across the Arabian peninsula, linked by 750 miles of high-pressure gas and oil pipelines, a similar but even more ambitious industrial city, for 300,000 people, is nearing completion at the old pearling and fishing village of Jubail on the Arabian gulf.

The two instant cities, with their tenuous but essential link of oil and gas from Saudi Arabia's vast eastern fields, are the linchpins of the Kingdom's ambitious plans to build a hydrocarbon industry, fortified by a steel mill and a variety of secondary manufacturing and support industries.

The goal is to keep at home at least some of the profits that are now being turned by refineries and petrochemical complex thousands of miles removed from Saudi Arabia's rich resources of crude oil.

"Eventually not one drop of oil nor one whiff of gas should leave our shores unprocessed," a senior Saudi Arabian official said.

Another aim of the \$35-billion-plus development project is to ease Saudi Arabia's dependence on the Gulf as the shipping point of its oil. The new Jubail-to-Yanbu oil pipelines, already operational and due to begin filling supertankers in July will funnel 1.85 million barrels of oil a day across the peninsula to the new Red Sea port, some to be processed in two new Yanbu refineries and the rest transhipped through the Suez Canal and Egypt's Sued pipeline to the Mediterranean and Europe.

Alongside the oil pipeline is a high-pressure gas line that will deliver 270,000 barrels of natural gas liquids, pre-processed in Jubail, to the Yanbu industrial complex, where it will provide power and feedstock for petrochemical products and propane and butane for export.

Like most developments in this nation, the

two cities and literally everything required to support them are rising from scratch. "Four years ago all we had here were two mobile homes and a radio," said Omar Nasif, deputy director of the Yanbu project for the Royal Commission that was formed by the government to oversee the two developments.

Since then highways, electric power, telephones and monotonous rows of bungalows and motel-like dormitories have risen to accommodate a construction work force mostly foreign — that is expected to reach 25,000 by the time the city's long term residents begin settling in 1985. Minister of Industry Ghazi Al-Gosaibi said the producers of petroleum and gas "are more entitled to petroleum and gas-related industries than a state separated by thousands of miles from the nearest oil well."

COMMENT
By Saif Abdul Latif Al Yom

It appears we have not yet reached the stage from where we can determine the significance of tree planting and green fields in comparison to vast areas of cement and asphalt. Any such activity, be it a planting day or children's day, would seem to be nothing more than mere fun and an attractive game.

The planting weeks have, in fact, assumed the character of sports, with both starting with fun and bluster and ending in almost nothing. First of all, we ought to know why the planting week is celebrated and where we must plant. Before deciding on who would inaugurate the week, we ought to determine who will look after the growth and development of the tree.

The planting weeks have invariably ended in a fiasco, as most of the streets and parks wear a barren look, and the onslaught of the desert has been quite heavy on the towns.

I think it will be worthwhile organizing such weeks in a completely new manner. As a proposal, a committee should be formed to supply nurslings to each and every house of a residential area, no matter whether it is urban and rural. Then the head of the house after it until it has taken firm roots and has shown satisfactory growth. I believe the result would be much better than making an "official inauguration and ending the week with a function."

On the other hand, we ought to know that the tree is planted in an attempt to change the barren look of the town or the rural area. Don't you think it is calamitous for a child to find nothing in his surroundings to which he can attach his childhood, before preparing to go to see a far-off place like Bangkok?!

British sell dairy facility

JEDDAH, Feb. 28 — A British dairy unit provides facilities for the housing, feeding and milking of ten high-yielding cows, has a purchased by Prince Saud bin Abdullah Saud, a British Embassy press statement Friday.

The unit will be insulated from the heat by outer cladding of plastic-coated galvanized steel sheeting and an internal cladding of fire-resistant plywood. The wall cavity will be filled with insulation material. The roof will be constructed in a similar manner, the statement said.

The dairy, cow stalls, milking area and calf pens will have a controlled environment, four water coolers. A 450-liter milk can will be fully refrigerated and capable of piping the milk in good conditions for two s. Provision has been made to undertake all-scale processing of milk into cheese, butter or ladan.

The £35,000 unit was supplied by Milking Machine Testers of southwest England, which also will provide the equipment for the dairy, calf pens and young stock pens, statement added.

Prayer Times

	Mecca	Medina	Riyadh	Dammam	Buraidah	Tabuk
Sunday	5:17	5:19	4:51	4:39	5:03	5:34
Fajr (Dawn)	6:42	6:44	6:16	6:04	6:28	6:59
Ishraq (Sunrise)	12:33	12:34	12:05	11:52	12:16	12:46
Dhuhr (Noon)	3:55	3:55	3:26	3:12	3:37	4:05
Asr (Evening)	6:26	6:25	5:56	5:42	6:06	6:35
Maghreb (Sunset)	7:56	7:55	7:27	7:12	7:36	8:05
Isha (Night)						

80 join electrical show
British traders plan mission

JEDDAH, Feb. 28 — Representatives of eight British companies will visit the Kingdom from March 6 through 19 as members of a trade mission organized by the Birmingham Engineering and Building Center, according to a British Embassy press statement Saturday.

The companies represented produce a wide range of products including accessories for reinforced concrete, galvanized steel building components, bathroom sanitary ware fittings, power supply systems, combustion equipment, pallets and pumping equipment. Some of the companies represented will be looking for agents to sponsor them in Saudi Arabia, the statement added.

In another development, about 80 British companies are exhibiting their specialist products and services at the Middle East Electricity Exhibition being held here from Feb. 28 to 5 March in a joint venture participation organized by the British Electrical and Allied Manufacturers Association and with the cooperation of the British Overseas Trade Board, the embassy statement added.

The companies will occupy 1,299 square meters of stand space and will show equipment which includes cables for ground and overhead power transmission and distribution lines together with associated hardware, generating sets, gas turbines, control devices, lighting equipment and domestic electrical goods, the statement said.

Meanwhile a leading British manufacturer of scaffolding and other similar equipment is to make its products available in Saudi Arabia by appointing a distributor, Michael Cook, export manager of Stephens and Carter Ltd., will visit Riyadh and Jeddah from April 8 through 14, to appoint distributors, according to the British Embassy.

The company makes high-quality equipment ranging from ladders and aluminium towers to powered suspended platforms for use on tall structures or high-rise buildings and light-weight mobile hydraulic platforms. A subsidiary company is a leading supplier to international oil companies operating in the North Sea, the embassy statement said.



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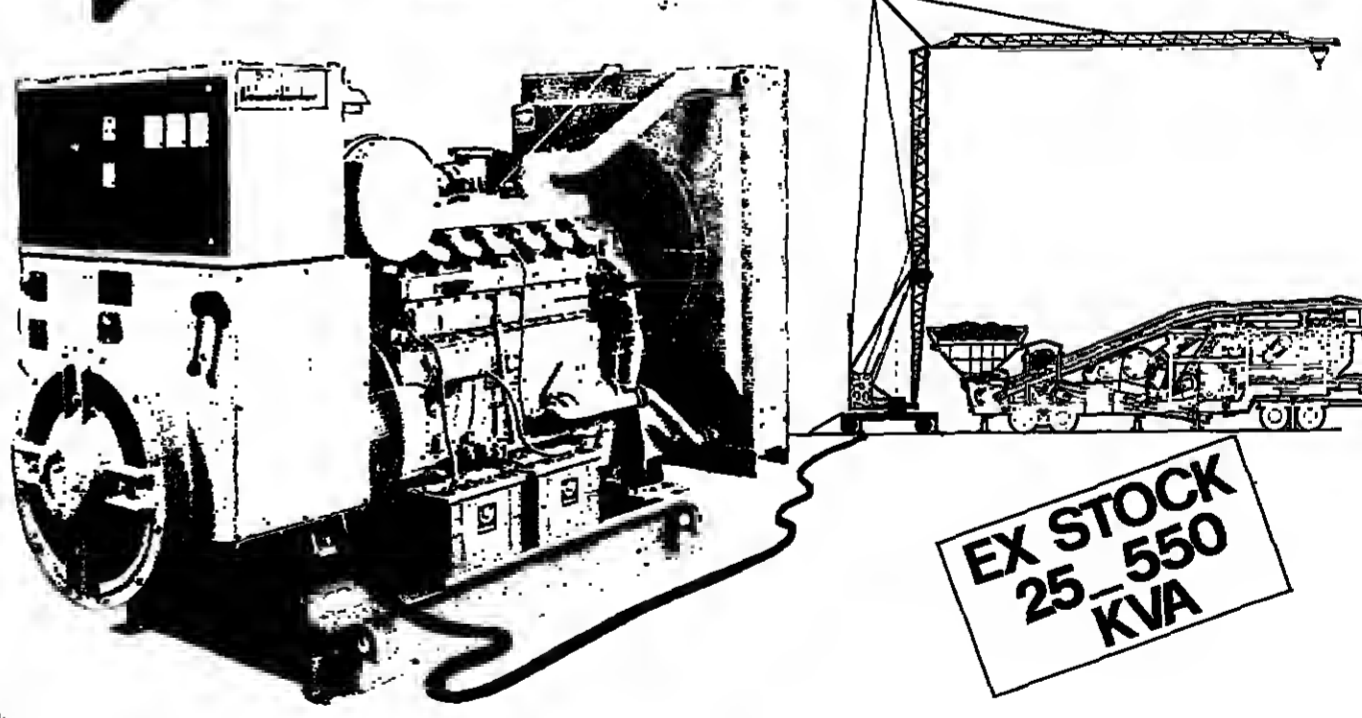


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To overcome impasse

U.S. urged to call Namibia conference

UNITED NATIONS, Feb. 28 (AP) — African and Western diplomats are looking to the administration of U.S. President Ronald Reagan to play a key role in resolving the last major colonial problem on the African continent — the thorny issue of South-west Africa, also known as Namibia.

After a pause to give the Reagan administration time to reflect on the problem, the United Nations General Assembly goes into resumed session Monday to vote on a resolution urging the Security Council to adopt economic and political sanctions to force South African compliance with past U.N. resolutions on granting independence to Namibia.

A South African diplomatic source suggested to a reporter that the current impasse over Namibia's future might be overcome if the new administration agreed to sponsor a Lancaster house-style constitutional conference. Such a conference would be modeled after the 1979 negotiations at Lancaster House in London that paved the way for independence of Zimbabwe, a former British colony of Rhodesia.

Zimbabwe's independence left Namibia as the only strictly colonial territory among 52 independent nations of the continent and related island groups. Namibia is a sparsely populated, arid region roughly the size of

Mozambican rebels held in Zimbabwe

SALISBURY, Feb. 28 (AP) — Zimbabwe soldiers have captured 40 members of a Mozambican resistance movement inside Zimbabwe's borders during "the past few days," the government announced Friday. It was the first time the government of Prime Minister Robert Mugabe has publicly acknowledged an operation by its forces against the guerrillas who seek to overthrow the Marxist government in neighboring Mozambique.

"This is the first concentrated group to be captured in this country," Mugabe's Minister of State for Security and Supreme Military Commander Munangagwa told a news conference. Munangagwa disclosed the capture of the guerrillas while at Salisbury airport to bid farewell to a top-level Mozambican security team which was here for two days of secret talks. The minister gave no details of the operation to capture the dissidents.

Western diplomats here believe that about 4,000 guerrillas of the Mozambique National Resistance (MNR) are operating against President Samora Machel, who came to power when Mozambique gained independence from Portugal in 1975.

Britain and France combined and is rich in uranium, diamonds and other minerals. The territory is bordered by South Africa, Zambia, Botswana and Marxist-ruled Angola, the last of which provides bases for SWAPO guerrillas.

Principal participants in the Namibian dispute are the white Pretoria government, the Namibian "internal" parties recognized by South Africa, and the Southwest Africa People's Organization (SWAPO), a black guerrilla group. SWAPO has been fighting for independence since 1966 when the United Nations terminated the League of Nations mandate over the territory that had been granted to South Africa in 1920.

All these parties were brought together by the United Nations at Geneva in January at a conference intended to set a date for a ceasefire in the guerrilla war and to launch a 1978 Western-devised plan for U.N. supervised free elections leading to Namibian independence by the end of this year. The plan had particularly strong backing from the Jimmy Carter administration and its two black ambassadors to the United Nations — Andrew Young and his successor, Donald McHenry.

But South Africa decided at Geneva that a ceasefire was "premature." Pretoria charged that the United Nations lacked the impartiality needed to supervise an election since the U.N. General Assembly in 1973 had voted to recognize SWAPO as the "sole and authentic representative of the Namibian people."

While stressing that SWAPO remained committed to the U.N.-sponsored Western plan for independence, the guerrilla organization's U.N. observer Theo-Ben Gurirab did not rule out an alternative path around the impasse, including a U.S.-sponsored conference dealing with the Namibian problem.

"We are not opposed to any meeting to further clarify outstanding issues," Gurirab told the Associated Press. Before considering whether to "go back to the drawing board," Gurirab said, SWAPO would want to know clearly "what would be the objective (of a U.S.-sponsored conference)."

He expressed concern, however, that the Reagan administration would be "too preoccupied with the so-called strategic interests of the United States in Southern Africa" and, in the process, SWAPO would be "victimized because we would be seen as an instrument of Soviet aggression. There are hints that this is in the offing."

He obviously referred to U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig's avowed aim of giving the fight against international terrorism priority over human rights considerations.



QUAKE HAVOC: The ruins of Hotel Alexia in the town of Vrahati along the Gulf of Corinth. A number of buildings in Athens, including tourist hotels, suffered cracks Tuesday night when a strong earthquake hit the area.

Archeologists concerned

Parthenon suffers serious cracks in quake

ATHENS, Feb. 28 (AP) — Worried archeologists have reported significant earthquake damage to the Parthenon temple atop the Acropolis, symbol for 2,500 years of the glory of ancient Greece. The ancient marble columns, which have survived fire, invasion and air pollution erosion over the centuries, suffered cracks that experts described as serious although they were barely noticeable to a reporter's eye.

The cause of the damage was an earthquake

measuring 6.6 on the Richter Scale, which struck Greece with shattering force Tuesday night. It was followed by 652 aftershocks in 24 hours from an epicenter in the Gulf of Corinth 97 kms west of Athens. The quake left 15 persons dead, scores injured and hundreds homeless in chilly, rainy weather.

Historic Corinth, however, miraculously escaped damage although it was a few miles from the epicenter. A spokesman for the Corinth museum said Friday that none of the

thousands of treasured antiquities there was damaged. Nearby, modern Corinth was scarred by severe damage including the collapse of two hotels and many residences.

The Acropolis, a 155-meter hill which dominates Athens, is the site of both the Parthenon and another temple, the Erechtheum, which is famous for the Caryatids. These six marble maidens clad in long ionic tunics were saved from probable earthquake damage by another threat — continuing erosion from air pollution. The five-ton statues had been removed from the porch of the maidens last August and put into safe storage.

In Megara, a town near Athens, another well-known statue showing a headless Roman was toppled but luckily landed in a wood pile and was undamaged. G.S. Tontas, superintendent of the Acropolis, inspected the Acropolis area with a group of experts. He reported that in addition to causing the cracks in the Parthenon, the earthquake shattered 50 of the 500 priceless vases in the Erechtheum and another 10 in the Acropolis museum. Elsewhere in Athens, the southeast pillar of the temple of Olympus Zeus fell.

On the fourth floor of the famous grande Bretagne hotel, a fallen slab of marble next to the room of an Associated Press reporter testified to the force of the shock. Cracks also were reported at many historical sites in the stricken area, including the monastery of Ossiou Loukas, the pirates museum and the Byzantine wall of Dafni.

Manila votes for French-type rule

MANILA, Feb. 28 (R) — President Ferdinand Marcos, who lifted his eight-year-old martial law rule last month, has gained approval for a revised parliamentary system for the Philippines. Marcos is expected to retain wide powers because so far he is the sole candidate for a presidential election. Under the revised system, the president could place the country under martial law again in case of an invasion or insurrection.

The interim national assembly, which is controlled by Marcos' New Society Movement (KBL), overwhelmingly approved the constitutional changes, Friday. The assembly agreed to amendments to the constitution for the formation of a French-style parliamentary system under which the president could appoint and sack the prime minister.

The amendments, to be put to a national plebiscite on March 27, also give the presi-

dent and his subordinates freedom from civil prosecution for any official acts committed during the martial law rule and after it was lifted Jan. 17. The interim national assembly will draw up questions to be put to voters in the plebiscite, which will be followed by the presidential election, and in 1984 by a general election for a regular national assembly.

The eight-party alliance in the United Democratic Opposition (UNIDO) has denounced the changes as a means of giving Marcos' rule the mantle of legitimacy. The UNIDO has not put up a rival presidential candidate. The new president would serve for six years from June 30, with the possibility of being re-elected for a further term.

In a speech Friday to members of the Philippine Military Academy, Marcos said: "I am 63 and I have no intention of retiring, for the next few years anyway."

Uranium dust blamed for French N-plant fire

PARIS, Feb. 28 (AP) — A fire last week at a French nuclear reprocessing plant apparently was caused by the accidental spread of uranium-contaminated dust and onto a silo housing atomic wastes, according to a report.

The report issued Thursday by the French government's committee on hygiene and safety said the cotton containing the uranium had been used by workers from cleaning decontaminating certain rooms at the plant La Hague, near the English Channel coast city of Cherbourg.

Among the areas cleaned with cotton, report noted, were the outer doors of the where the fire broke out Jan. 6. The government report said a large amount of cotton had been used at the plant three weeks before fire and that apparently some of it worked itself into the interior of the silo.

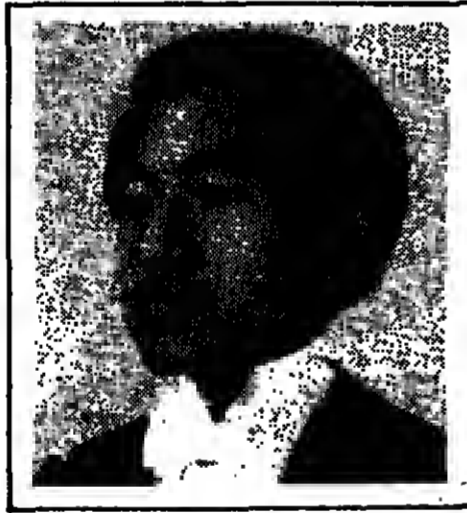
Uranium never should have been in the and its presence may have caused a combustion that caused the blaze, the report said. The government report noted five employees had been contaminated by the but had shown no signs of any complications. One employee received a radiation dose of 5.7 rems while the others received between 200 and 400 millirems each.

The maximum advisable dose per year for a nuclear plant worker is 5 rems while for the public it is about 500 millirems a year. Surrounding buildings, grounds and vegetation received very weak contaminations from fire, the report said. It advised the plant install instruments outside each building would monitor radioactive levels, the amount of ventilation and the presence of fires in room of the buildings.

The blaze caused an uproar among unions covering the plant's 2,500 workers. At the time of the fire, the unions contended many as 400 workers were contaminated slightly by radioactive fumes. About half the plant's work force staged a major demonstration at the nuclear reprocessing facility days after the fire to demand better measures.

Several anti-nuclear groups also demonstrated throughout France to protest the nation's ambitious drive to harness power of the atom. France has the advanced nuclear energy capacity in Western world.

President Valery Giscard d'Estaing's government has allocated \$30 billion for nuclear development for the 10-year period ending 1985. By that time, 50 per cent of French electricity should be generated by nuclear power, twice the projected U.S. rate of 25 per cent.



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Problems in Europe

Put off neutron, Reagan urged

WASHINGTON, Feb. 28 (AP) — President Ronald Reagan has been urged by the members of the Senate Armed Services Committee to postpone any plan for deploying the neutron warhead in Europe because it could create political problems with U.S. allies overseas.

Republican Senator John Tower of Texas said Friday he told Reagan that a more important goal now is modernization of tactical nuclear weapons already deployed in Europe.

During his administration, President Jimmy Carter laid the groundwork for playing the neutron warhead — sometimes called the neutron bomb — in Europe but he abruptly changed his mind. Instead, he stated that the weapon's components be produced in the United States but not assembled.

Tower, speaking with reporters in the White House driveway, said he suggested to Reagan "perhaps we shouldn't press right now on the enhanced radiation weapon because of political problems."

"The point is that Carter's handling of this issue has made it politically very difficult for us in western Europe, and the priority is modernization of tactical nuclear forces in that area," Tower said.

"I think we've overloaded our political circuits," he added. "The first thing we have to do on with tactical nuclear force modernization and that's a big enough political problem."



Senator John Tower

Tower said the biggest political obstacle for the neutron warhead is in West Germany with Chancellor Helmut Schmidt. "Schmidt is still smarting from the treatment he got from Carter on that," said Tower.

"Once he (Schmidt) had finally sold the (neutron warhead) to his parliament, the idea of deployment got them to accept it, then Carter subsequently pulled the rug out from under him and declared it an inhumane weapon. Obviously this was an enormous political embarrassment to Schmidt."

Tower reported to Reagan on a recent trip to 10 countries in the Middle East and North Africa. He said the United States would

"have to be responsive in security assistance" to friendly countries in the region to help them combat "what they perceive to be their greatest threat — Soviet expansionism."

The senator said he supports selling Saudi Arabia equipment to extend the range and firepower of F-15 aircraft on grounds it would help them counter Soviet moves.

"I don't believe it poses a threat to Israel's security," he said Friday of the F-15 equipment. At the same time, he said he supports giving additional military assistance to Israel.

Asked if the United States should station troops in the Middle East, Tower replied, "I don't think you ought to station American forces permanently, that is to say sizeable ground forces or even air contingents in any of these countries."

He said it is more important to have access to military facilities in those countries, be able to preposition equipment there and help those countries build up their own militaries.

Meanwhile, President Ronald Reagan's tough talk on dealing with the Soviet Union is supported by nearly three-fourths of his fellow Americans, while only 5 per cent think the president is being too harsh, according to an Associated Press-NBC News poll.

The public remains convinced that the United States trails the Soviet Union in military strength. And they want to see that situation changed, strongly backing Reagan's plans for big increases in defense spending.

U.S. scientist's theory

Genes hold seeds of cancer

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 28 (AP) — A California scientist theorizes that hidden within every cell of every human may be a few genes that carry the seeds of cancer — seeds that will grow if the gene is somehow unleashed.

"The idea is that it's always the same set of genes that cause human cancers... and we all have these genes," said Michael Bishop of the University of California at San Francisco. He contends the cancer genes may be "the direct target of environmental carcinogens" such as cigarette smoke.

"I think that sometime in the next five years — maybe in the next one year — a molecular biologist is going to have in a test tube a piece of DNA (the material of heredity) that he knows to be such a gene."

Bishop said he and other researchers "may have stumbled on the same genes by studying tumor viruses" that cause cancers in chickens and other animals, but not man. Bishop described his findings, and the theory he drew from them, Thursday at a privately sponsored conference on recombinant DNA technology.

Identifying the specific genes that apparently go awry and begin the cancer process should have major medical value, he said later in an interview. "If I didn't believe that, I wouldn't be here."

The cancer genes almost certainly play some normal, vital role, perhaps as regulators of cell growth or differentiation, so "if you turn them off, you may cure the cancer but turn off the rest of the body as well." The presence of some cancer genes in humans, he said, is proven because a few forms of cancer are obviously inherited.

Bishop said he's been studying tumor viruses of chickens for 12 years and has found that the cancer-causing viral genes are essentially identical to certain genes in normal living cells. He said the genes — about a dozen — have been identified and more may be found — seem to appear to similar forms in all vertebrate animals, including man.

This conclusion led to his theory that the genes must have an important normal function and that sometime in the evolutionary past they were stolen from some species "through an act of piracy" by viruses.

Now when the normally harmless virus invades a cell of that species, the normally harmless gene it carries produces cancer. No such cancer viruses have ever been confirmed for humans, despite a decades-long search.

The theory suggests that normal cellular genes perform their functions safely as long as they are regulated by the cell. When that fine tuning is somehow lost, the cancer genes work out of control and transform a normal cell into the wildly reproducing cancer cell.

Bishop said researchers have used genetic engineering to extract the alleged cancer genes from various animal cells. When returned to normal cells, as part of a virus or through gene-splicing, the genes induce cancer.

The next step, he said, is to prove the theory in human cells and identify the guilty genes. Some researchers already are testing human tumors for evidence that the suspected genes are abnormally active in cancer cells.

BRIEFS

MUNICH, (AP) — A group calling itself "armed secret execution group" has claimed responsibility for last week's bombing that injured eight persons at the studios of U.S.-sponsored Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty. A spokesman for Bavarian state police said Friday the previously unknown group sent a letter in Polish to the studio claiming responsibility for the explosion late last Saturday.

NEW YORK, (R) — A nine-year-old boy suspected of robbing a Manhattan bank of \$118 surrendered Friday to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) which said he was believed to be the youngest person ever hunted for a bank robbery in the U.S. The boy was turned over to the New York city family court since, under New York state law, no one under the age of 10 can be charged with a crime.

LONDON, (AFP) — John Lennon, the former Beatle murdered in New York in December, left half his \$290 million fortune to his widow Yoko Ono, under his will. The musician left some \$5.8 million to friends and relatives here, with the bulk going to Julian, his 17-year-old son from a first marriage, and the rest to charity.

NAIROBI, (AFP) — President Daniel Arap Moi returned here Friday from a visit to India and immediately appealed to students in Kenya to study rather than cause disturbances.

WELLINGTON, (AFP) — Farm disease experts Saturday gave New Zealand the all-clear following a potentially disastrous foot-and-mouth scare which put the animals of this agricultural country in quarantine. The World Animal Health Laboratory at Pirbright in England Saturday confirmed that exhaustive tests had failed to find any trace of any major stock disease in animal tissue. The findings are expected to result in a lifting of barriers against New Zealand animal products imposed by both Japan and Australia.



Harold Wilson

Harold Wilson quitting politics

LONDON, Feb. 28 (AP) — Former Prime Minister Sir Harold Wilson will not stand for election to parliament, Labor Party officials in the west England constituency of Huyton he is represented for 30 years, have announced.

Wilson, who will be 65 next month, abruptly resigned as prime minister in April 1976, less than midway through the government's normal five-year term of office. He was succeeded by James Callaghan, who led Labor to defeat by the Conservative Party at the last election in May 1979.

Wilson and officials of the ideologically left-wing Labor Party were at pains to stress his decision to quit politics was not connected with the imminent formation of a new social democrat party, led by right-wing Labor rebels.

Shortly after the constituency announcement, however, Wilson's elder son, Robin, 7, not active in politics previously, said he had joined the Council for Social Democracy, founded last month by Labor rebels as a forerunner to a new party.

A statement from Wilson's Huyton constituency Friday recalled that the former prime minister had said in 1979 he was entering retirement for the last time. Wilson, who had major surgery last year, said the departure of nothing to do with Labor's fighting.

"What I have had to say about the pantheon in the party, both on the left and right, has been dealt with in the past," said Wilson.

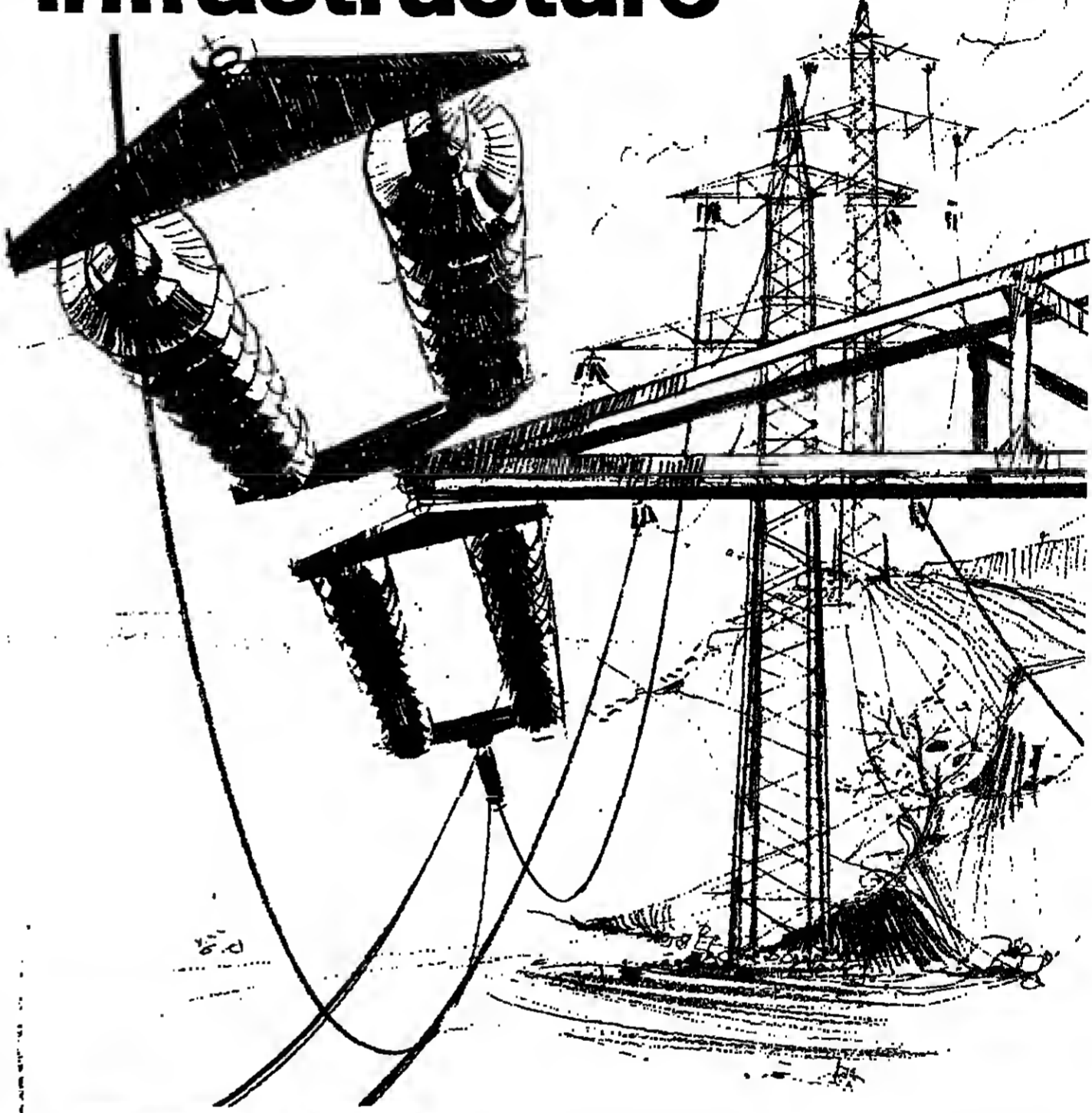
Wilson will remain as one of Labor's 288 members in the 365-member House of Commons until the next elections, scheduled in 1984.

Wilson was one of the builders of Britain's welfare state. He became Labor's third prime minister in 1964 when he led the party to victory after 13 years of Tory rule, and was ninth leader until Labor's June 1970 defeat. Wilson was prime minister again in March 1974 until he resigned.

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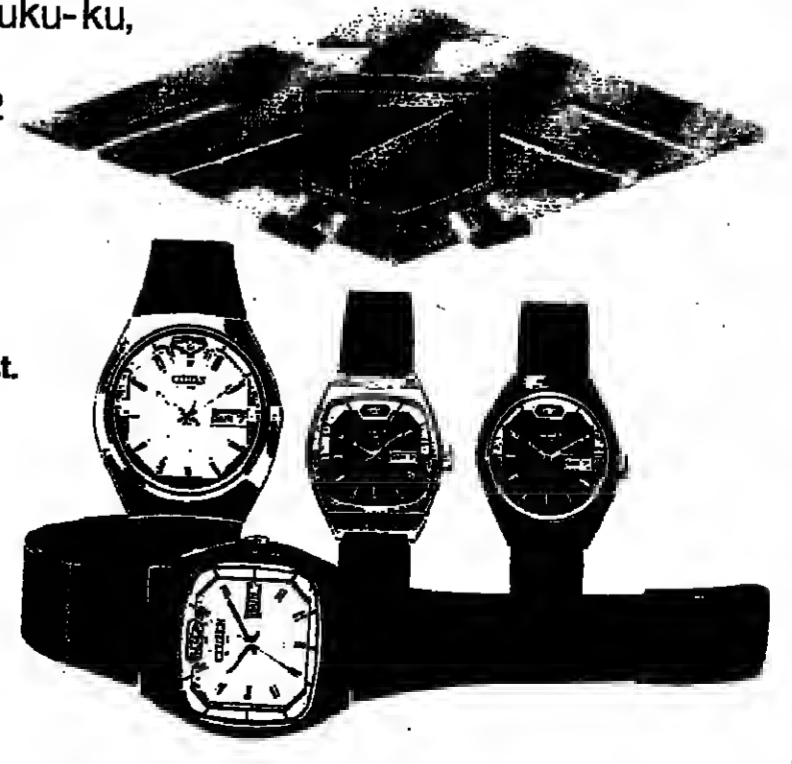
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In January

U.S. trade deficit mounts to \$5 billion

WASHINGTON, Feb. 28 (AP) — The United States trade deficit rose to \$5.4 billion in January, the highest in nearly a year...

Total merchandise imports rose 8.5 per cent over December's figure to \$24.26 billion in January...

The deficit was the largest since the record \$5.96 billion reported in February 1980.

December's deficit, originally reported at just under \$3 billion, was revised Thursday to \$3.1 billion.

Reagan approves more budget cuts

WASHINGTON, Feb. 28 (R) — President Reagan has approved several billion dollars in further budget cuts to keep proposed government spending at \$695.5 billion in the 1982 fiscal year...

When Reagan presented a sweeping economic program to Congress last week, he proposed to cut planned spending by \$41.4 billion dollars.

But administration officials have since revised their sums, saying that the plans left behind by the Carter administration would have been even more expensive than they had first thought...

Meanwhile, more than 150 U.S. organizations, led by the huge AFI-CIO Union Federation, said Friday they were joining forces to oppose Reagan's planned spending cuts.

The organizations, most of which traditionally back the Democratic Party, said in a new conference that while they support measures to slow inflation, the huge budget slashes proposed by the Reagan administration put too great a burden on the nation's most needy citizens.

AFI-CIO president Lane Kirkland said the groups were unanimous in believing that the Reagan budget proposals would not cure America's economic ills...

Increased imports of energy products and cars accounted for about \$700 million of the \$1.9 billion total import rise in January...

Department economist David Lund said part of the increase could be due to a strengthening dollar overseas...

In imports, petroleum products rose 6.6 per cent when measured in dollars — to \$7.84 billion — and 3.7 per cent in volume to 7.2 million barrels per day...

The value of imported passenger cars — excluding Canadian imports which are mostly from U.S. companies — rose 20 per cent to \$1.3 billion in January...

Another big import contributor was clothing, which recorded nearly a \$100 million jump to a total of \$636 million.

Overall, petroleum products showed a \$7.6 billion deficit for the month, manufactured goods recorded a \$410 million deficit and agricultural commodities had a surplus of over \$2 billion.

The agricultural surplus and the oil deficit are expected each month, but manufactured goods had shown a surplus of nearly \$1 billion in December.

Contributing to the manufacturing deficit were increased imports of products from silver and diamonds to newspaper and radios to toys, games and machinery...

Italy increases price of petroleum products

ROME, Feb. 28 (AP) — The Italian government has raised the price of gasoline and other oil products by 20 lira a liter (eight cents a gallon) because of the dollar's sharp rise on foreign exchange markets.

The cabinet's committee on prices raised the price of premium gasoline from \$50 lira a liter (\$3.40 a gallon) to \$70 lira a liter (\$3.48 a gallon).

Italy must pay dollars for the petroleum it imports, so a jump in the dollar automatically raises the cost of oil products in Italy.

Regular gasoline rose from 815 lira a liter (\$3.26 a gallon) to 835 lira (\$3.34). Diesel oil went from 350 lira a liter (\$1.40 a gallon) to 370 lira (\$1.48).



DEVELOPMENT LOAN: An agreement for a \$200 million loan was signed Thursday by ISVEIMER, the Institute for the Economic Development of Southern Italy, and a group of banks...

Wall Street

Dow Jones average up as market recovers

NEW YORK, Feb. 28 (AP) — After taking a slight spill in the first month of 1981, the stock market spent February repairing some of the damage.

At the close on Friday, the Dow Jones average of 30 industrials actually showed a slight gain since the new year. Other broader indicators remained on the minus side for the year to date...

Much of the recovery came in the past week, with the Dow Jones industrials climbing 38.49 to 974.58 for its best weekly showing of the year...

Other readings for the week showed the New York stock exchange composite index up 2.68 at 75.13, and the American stock exchange market value index 8.60 higher at 338.94.

Big board volume averaged 48.55 million shares a day, up from 40.47 million the week before.

Thursday and Friday's sessions were the busiest since early January. But while the market was showing some stirrings of life, there was still abundant evidence of a cautious mood among investors.

A heavy flow of money continued into the money-market mutual funds, which some investors use as a "parking place" for their assets when they are unsure what else to do with them.

As of Feb. 20, Investor's Intelligence Reports, almost half of the leading investment advisory services were bearish on the market, while only 27 per cent were clear-cut bulls.

Another contrary-opinion signal that caught the eye of the editors at Market Logic, a Florida market letter, is the current presence of two books forecasting economic disaster on the best-seller lists...

BRIEFS

PARIS, (AFP) — Several banks forming the credit industrial and commercial group raised their base interest rate by 0.75 per cent to 13 per cent starting Monday.

LONDON, (AFP) — A \$2 billion loan which Italy intended to float on the Euro-currency markets to meet the cost of dealing with damage caused by the November earthquake in southern Italy will probably be salvaged because it has been undersubscribed.

PARIS, (AFP) — Renault will shortly start producing a new car, at present coded as 142, that should sell well in the United States and other countries...

ROME, (AFP) — Italian motorcycle manufacturer Piaggio said it has no plans to link up with Japanese Honda to produce two-wheelers.

WASHINGTON, (AFP) — Potential natural gas reserves in the U.S. are bigger than had been thought, the U.S. Geological Survey which is a federal agency has reported.

LONDON, (AFP) — Ford motor group plans to cut back its West European output, and the European market will in future get its cars from Ford in Brazil.

Saudi Arabian Government Tenders

Table with columns: Authority, Description, No. of Tender, Price SR, Closing Date. Includes items like temporary asphalt paving and building construction.

PORTS AUTHORITY JEDDAH ISLAMIC PORT SHIPS MOVEMENTS UP TO 0700 HOURS ON 28TH FEBRUARY, 1981

Table with columns: Berth, Name of Vessel, Agent, Type of Cargo, Arrival Date. Lists various ships and their cargo.

KING ABDUL AZIZ PORT DAMMAM SHIPS MOVEMENT UP TO 0700 HOURS ON 24.2.1401/28.2.1981 CHANGES PAST 28 HRS.

Table with columns: Number, Name, Agent, Type of Cargo, Arrival Date. Lists ships at King Abdul Aziz Port.

Salsabil advertisement featuring a bottle image and text: 'a barrel of qualities in a bottle of water. Salsabil carbonated water. Salsabil is healthy. Salsabil is pure. Salsabil is light. Salsabil is digestive. Salsabil is mechanically processed in glass bottles. Salsabil the pride of Saudi industry.'

Chrysler incurs \$1.7b loss in 1980

DETROIT, Feb. 28 (R) — Chrysler Corporation reported a loss of \$1.71 billion for 1980 — the biggest in the history of U.S. industry — but received new loan guarantees from the government to help afloat.

Chrysler's record loss, added to those of the other three major U.S. car makers, produced an unprecedented \$4.17 billion in total industry deficits last year.

Second-ranked Ford Motor Company last week announced a \$1.5 billion loss, which stood as the largest by any U.S. company until Chrysler reported Friday just after the Federal Loan Guarantee Board headed by Treasury Secretary Donald Regan voted unanimously to extend the number three car maker an additional \$400 million in loan guarantees.

Chrysler promptly sold \$400 million in government-backed 10-year notes, priced to yield 15.31 per cent.

Regan later gave the company a vote of confidence saying: "I think that Chrysler's prospects are reasonably good."

"We will have to pause if the Chrysler Corporation ever comes back...to study the situation a lot more closely," Regan told reporters in Washington.

Nevertheless, he said Chrysler was investigating the possibilities of finding new capital, including mergers and joint ventures.

Chrysler had already received \$800 million of \$1.5 billion in loan guarantees authorized by Congress in 1979.

To get the additional \$400 million, it had to convince its lenders, suppliers and workers to make \$1.2 billion worth of concessions over the next two years.

Foreign Exchange Rates

Table with columns: Currency, SAMA, Cash, Transfer. Lists rates for various international currencies.

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ملكو في الجوه

Brezhnev-Karmal talks

Political settlement on Afghan issue urged

MOSCOW, Feb. 28 (Agencies) — Presidents Leonid Brezhnev of the Soviet Union and Babrak Karmal of Afghanistan have reaffirmed readiness for a settlement of the Afghan issue on the basis of an international quid-pro-quo.

According to Tass, the two leaders met here Friday and expressed "their firm determination to contribute to a political settlement of the situation concerning Afghanistan on the basis of the Afghan declaration of May 14, 1980, and the Soviet-Afghan declaration of Oct. 16, 1980."

The two declarations stipulate that "a stop to foreign aggressions and the recognition of Karmal's government by Afghanistan's neighbor countries should precede a pullback of Soviet forces from that country." The Afghan-Soviet justification for the Soviet military presence in Afghanistan has been the alleged threat to its sovereignty by outside forces. The meeting between the two presidents, in which Moscow's top specialist in

international party relations Boris Ponomarev, took part, was described as "cordial and fraternal." Karmal is here for the current Soviet Communist Party Congress.

Brezhnev and Karmal discussed ways to deepen "all-round Soviet-Afghan cooperation," Tass said. They also expressed "firm resolve" to uphold Afghan independence and sovereignty. Western reports say at least 90,000 Soviet troops are battling Muslim freedom fighters in Afghanistan.

Meanwhile, an international tribunal similar to that which condemned U.S. involvement in Vietnam, will be held in Stockholm early in May to examine the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan.

In another development, the Afghanistan government has decided to set up diplomatic missions in Angola, Syria and Mozambique, and will open a new consulate in the Soviet city of Tashkent, diplomatic sources said in New Delhi Friday.

On European peace plan

Carrington allays U.S. fears

COLUMBIA, South Carolina, Feb. 28 (R) — British Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington said Saturday European diplomatic efforts in the Middle East were intended to complement the U.S.-sponsored Camp David peace process, not compete with it.

Noting fear in the United States that the emergence of a European policy could cut across U.S. interests, Carrington denied that the intention was to undermine the 1978 Camp David between Egypt and Israel.

"Nor do I believe that it will be the outcome of our efforts which we see as complementary to yours," he said in a speech at the University of South Carolina. Carrington, visiting the United States with British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, said: "The

Europeans have considerable admiration for the achievements of Camp David. Our concern is that something more is going to be required if further progress is to be made toward a comprehensive settlement."

Reinforcing the European belief that the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), which is not recognized by the United States, must take part in Middle East peace talks, Carrington said: "Full account must be taken of the Palestinian problem. This is as fundamental to any lasting solution as is the security of Israel." He said Europeans were fully aware of the need to work closely together with the United States in what he described as "this most sensitive area."

Peacekeeping force in Sinai

U.S. official to hold talks in Cairo

CAIRO, Feb. 28 (R) — U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Michael Sterner has arrived in Cairo from Israel for talks on setting up a multi-national peacekeeping force in Sinai, airport officials said. In their 1979 peace treaty, Egypt and Israel agreed to set up a force to patrol the peninsula after Israel's final withdrawal in April next year.

Diplomatic sources said Egypt, had already approached Australia, Ghana, Nepal and Argentina as possible contributors to the force. Egyptian President Anwar Sadat last

month suggested that European Economic Community (EEC) countries might also help toward Middle East peace by sending units.

Sterner told reporters in Tel Aviv Friday the United Nations could not be involved. The Soviet Union would probably veto a resolution setting up a U.N. force for Sinai, diplomats said.

Sterner said the United States and Israel were certain that an agreement would be reached on the issue before April, 1982.

Doctors go on strike in Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, Feb. 28 (AP) — A number of Pakistani hospitals began accepting only emergency cases Friday after a large union of government doctors called an indefinite strike to protest the arrest of 21 members, including its president. A senior physician at the Islamabad Polyclinic, the main hospital in the capital, confirmed that all members of the Pakistan doctors' organization — about 80 per cent of the professional staff — had walked out.

Meanwhile, universities and colleges remained closed following student clashes Friday that left one person dead and eight injured.

Libya wants 3-nation talks on Chad issue

ADDIS ABABA, Feb. 28 (R) — Libya believes it has defused African criticism of its military presence in Chad and wants to arrange a three-nation summit to discuss the subject. Foreign Minister Abdul Ati Obeidi has said. The proposed meeting in the Chad capital of N'djamena would be attended by heads of state from Chad, Libya and Nigeria, which had been one of the most vocal critics of the Libyan military intervention and a proposed merger of the two countries, he told reporters Friday.

Obeidi said: "Nigeria is no longer taking such a hostile attitude. We find they are more positive." The Chad issue had been expected to dominate the current Organization of African Unity (OAU) council of ministers meeting here, but so far there has only been one brief, but heated, exchange on the subject.

BRIEFS

VIENNA, (AP) — Lebanon's Defense Minister Joseph Skaff, during a state visit here last week, expressed interest in purchasing a wide array of Austrian armaments, a major Vienna daily *Kurier* said Friday.

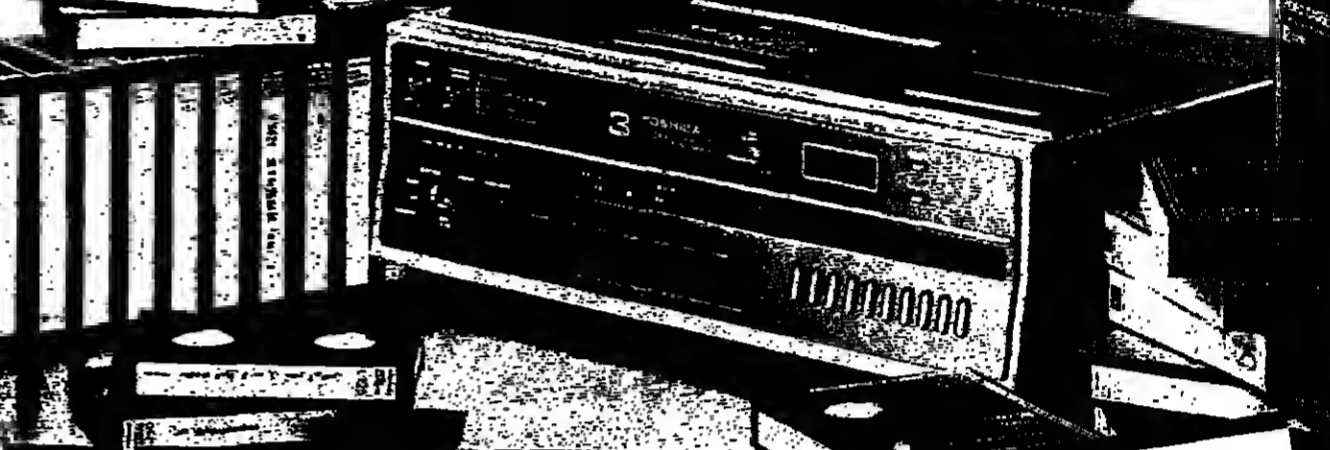
MANAMA, (AP) — The ruler of Bahrain received a French parliamentary delegation Friday and discussed Arab and international issues with it, it was reported by the official Gulf News Agency.

TEL AVIV, (R) — The Israeli army ordered an investigation Friday into the death of a Bedouin woman shot by a soldier during a military exercise in the Negev Desert, the army announced.

DAR-ES-SALAAM, (AP) — Ugandan President Milton Obote made a surprise visit to Tanzania Friday for consultations with Tanzanian President Julius Nyerere.

PARIS, (AFP) — French experts will visit Cairo next week to discuss details of a nuclear plant with a power of 2,000 megawatts, which France is to supply to Egypt, the foreign ministry said here Friday.

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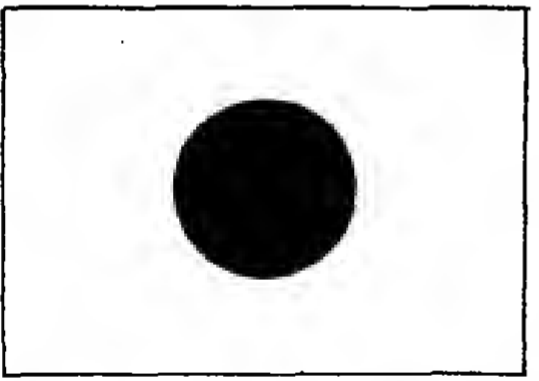
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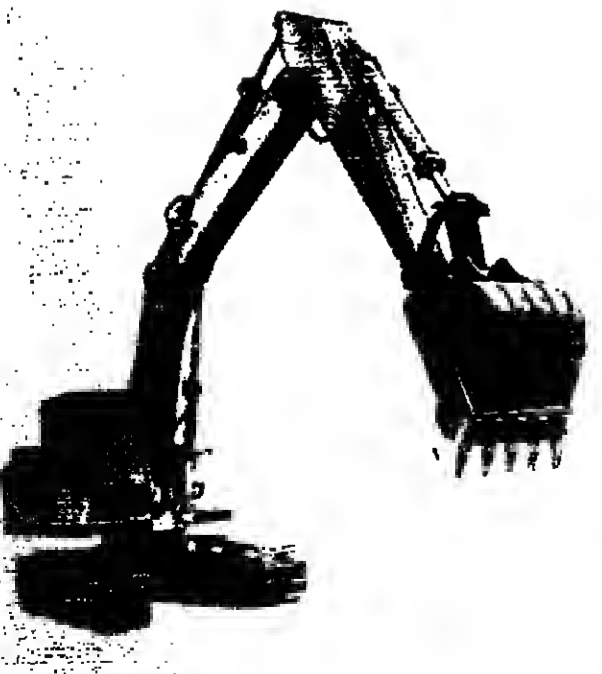
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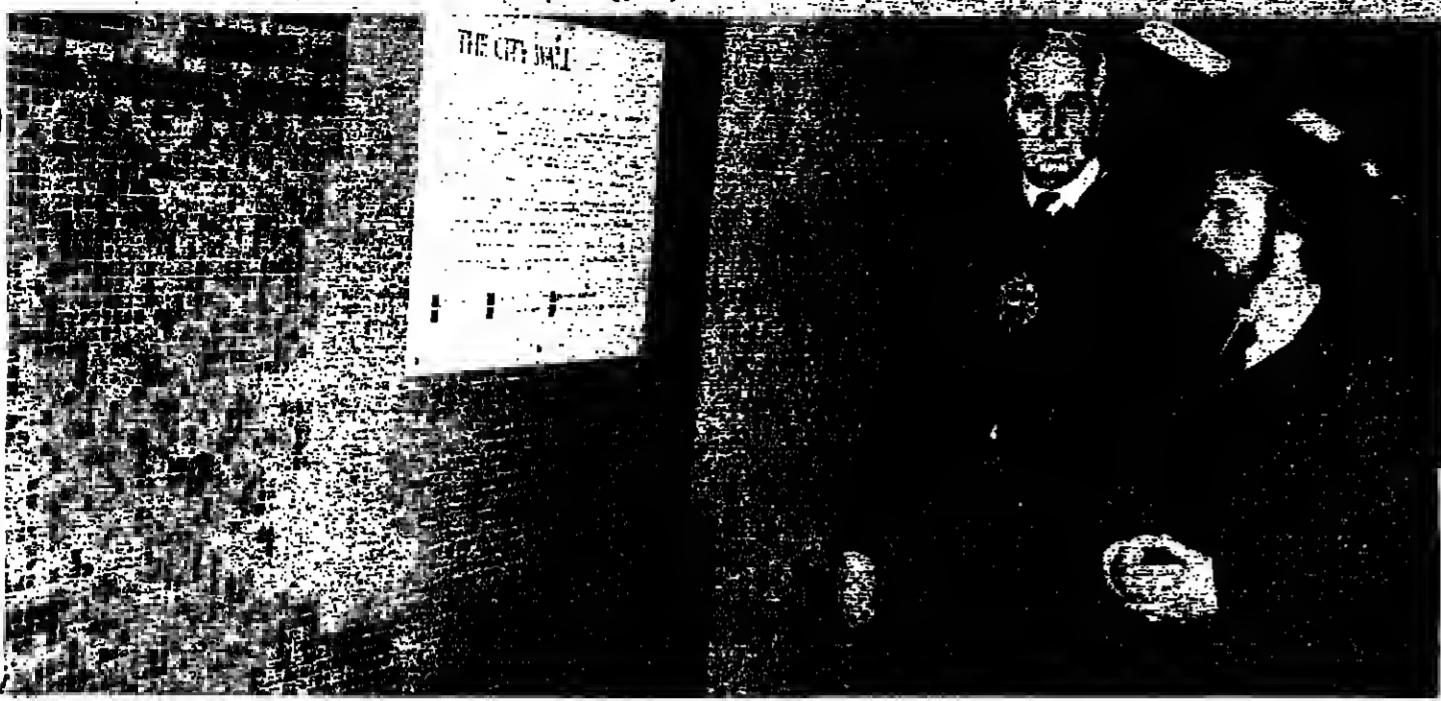
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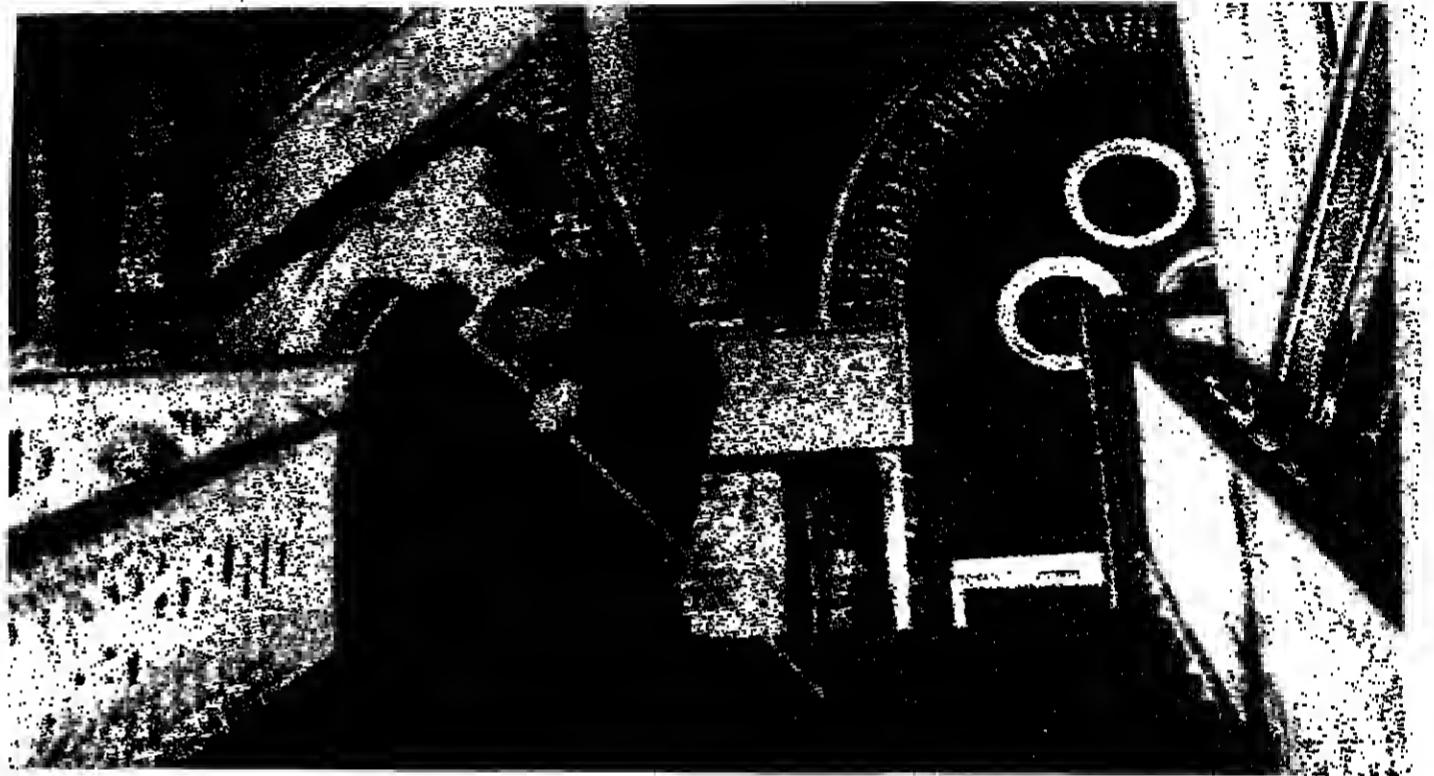
ON A CITY WALL: The Lord Mayor of London, Sir Ronald Gardner-Thorpe unveils a plaque in London's new west pedestrian sub-way beneath Aldgate Fish Street, E 2. The Plaque describes the adjacent mural in the form of a mosaic outlines a section of the Roman London Wall, originally 11 feet below street level.



FIRST SHAVE: This is the shave that young John Sears will never forget — it is his first. In this instance the barber is his brother George, who performs the delicate operation with their father's razor. The masculine act is considered one giant step into manhood.



SLEIGH RACE: An Austrian family dressed up with old traditional costumes sit on an old wooden sleigh drawn by a horse as they take part in an annual held traditional sleigh race over the frozen Lake Zell in Austria. The colorful tradition again attracted thousands of visitors and spectators.



OSCAR NOMINATIONS: Having escaped from the sadistic circus owner who has exhibited him as a sideshow freak, John Hart arrives at London's Liverpool Street Station in the motion picture *The Elephant Man*, a Brookfilm Production released by Paramount pictures. *The Elephant Man* scored eight nominations last week to tie for the lead in the 53rd annual Oscar race.



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OUR WARMEST GREETINGS TO HIS IMPERIAL HIGHNESS CROWN PRINCE OF JAPAN AND CROWN PRINCESS ON THEIR VISIT TO THE KINGDOM WHICH CONFIRMS THE STRONG TIES OF FRIENDSHIP THAT EXIST BETWEEN THE PEOPLE OF THE TWO COUNTRIES.

MAHMOUD SALEH ABBAR محمود صالح أبار
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WE HOPE THAT THIS VISIT WILL STRENGTHEN THE FRIENDSHIP AND THE MUTUAL INTERESTS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES.

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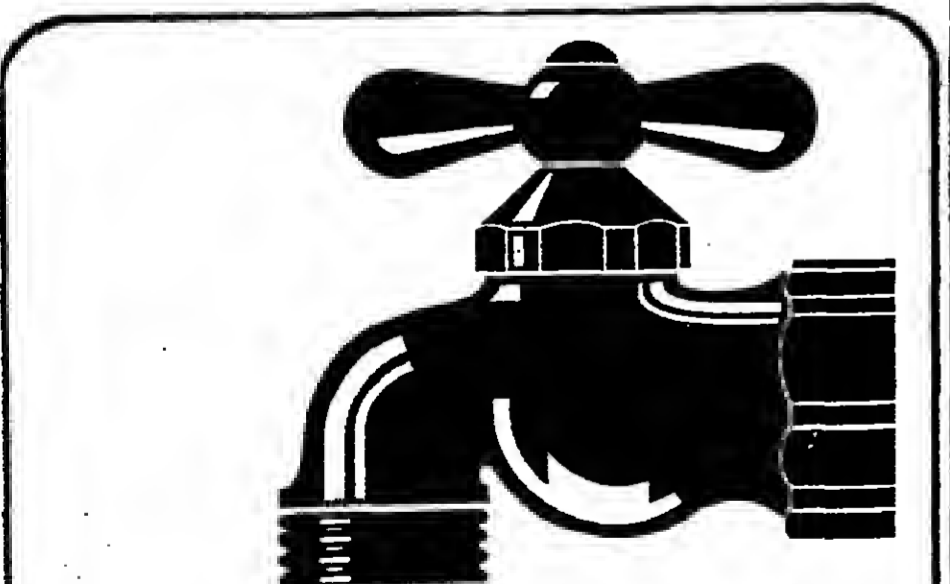
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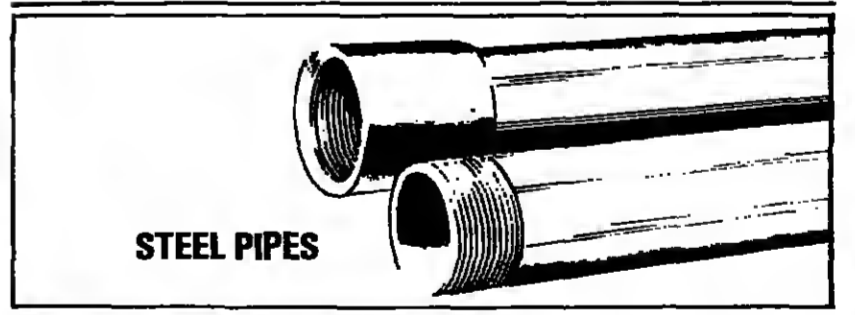
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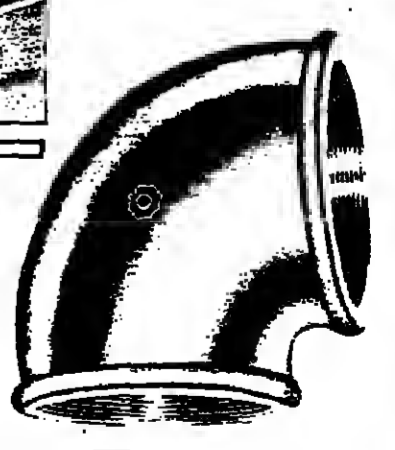
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Arabic headline: 'ارباب نيوز' (Arabs News) with subtext 'صحيفة سعودية يومية تصدر باللغة الانجليزية' (Saudi newspaper daily published in English)

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Aid to Salvador leftists

Haig warns Havana over arms

WASHINGTON, Feb. 28 (Agencies) - Secretary of State Alexander Haig has warned Cuba that the United States intends to "deal with" Communist arms shipments to leftist guerrillas in El Salvador.



Secretary of State Alexander Haig terrorism by helping the flow of arms, and raised the possibility that the United States might halt aid to Nicaragua...

aid would be subject to its adherence to U.S. law prohibiting assistance to countries "involved in exporting terrorism and the support of aggression abroad," he said.



MADRID OVATION: The 350 deputies seized in an abortive coup last week give a standing ovation in gratitude to members of the news media...

West Germans protest against nuclear station

KIEL, West Germany, Feb. 28 (AP) - Three policemen were hurt, one of them seriously, in clashes early Saturday with about 1,000 anti-nuclear demonstrators...

incipal decision banning the protest after the Schleswig-Holstein state government partially lifted the prohibition.

Speculation revives on Charles

LONDON, Feb. 28 (AP) - Prince Charles' engagement to Lady Diana Spencer has revived speculation about when the 32-year-old royal heir will succeed his mother...

Despite rain and bombs 1m Spaniards protest coup attempt

MADRID, Feb. 28 (AP) - More than one million Spaniards shouting "democracy not dictatorship" have turned out in a driving rain to protest an attempt four days earlier...

Valencia, where a Francoist general frightened residents with an army takeover by sending his tanks illegally into the streets...

An ultra-right organization quickly claimed responsibility for the blast in a telephone call to the Spanish news agency FE.

Australia to rescue stranded passengers

CANBERRA, Feb. 28 (AFP) - A fleet of Royal Australian Air Force C-130 Hercules transport planes were Saturday night put on stand-by to run a shuttle service to New Zealand to rescue passengers stranded by the dispute affecting Qantas...

3 policemen hurt

Three policemen were hurt, one of them seriously, in clashes early Saturday with about 1,000 anti-nuclear demonstrators...

Dutch sub deal Envoy in Peking to be recalled

AMSTERDAM, Feb. 28 (AP) - The Netherlands will recall its ambassador in Peking next week in response to Chinese protests over the sale of two Dutch submarines to Taipei...

3 U.K. missionaries reach London

LONDON, Feb. 28 (Agencies) - The three British missionaries who flew out of Iran Friday after six months in prison on suspicion of spying...

Polish premier pledges to protect alliance with Moscow

MOSCOW, Feb. 28 (Agencies) - Poland's new Prime Minister Wojciech Jaruzelski has promised the Kremlin his country will remain true to its alliance with Moscow and stay a "loyal and reliable" member of the Warsaw Pact.

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